Employment of sportsmen/players

1781. SHRI TALARI MANOHAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of the outstanding players and sportsmen employed by the various Government departments during the last three years;

(b) whether there is any special consideration given for the players in this regard; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) Information has been called for from the various Ministries/Departments of the Government of India and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(b) and (c) As per existing Government instructions meritorious sportsmen fulfilling the criteria laid down for this purpose can be appointed against vacancies in the direct recruitment quota for Group 'C' and 'D' posts subject to their fulfilling the prescribed age, educational or experience qualification prescribed for the post in question in relaxation of recruitment procedure through the employment exchange/Staff Selection Commission. The appointment of meritorious sportsmen, including all other reservations under the existing orders should not also exceed 50% of the total number of vacancies proposed to be filled by direct recruitment.

Pre-paid taxi service at railway stations

1782. SHRI TALARI MANOHAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to introduce prepaid taxi service at railway stations like Delhi;

(b) if so, by when it will be introduced; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:) (a) and (b) No, Sir. Ministry of Railways have no such proposals.

(c) Introduction of such a scheme is within the purview of State Governments.

Rural University

1783. SHRI TALARI MANOHAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's onsideration to start rural university in the country; and

(b) if so, the details therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) and (b) The National Policy on Education-1986, inter-alia, states that the new pattern of the rural university will be consolidated and developed on the lines of Mahatma Gandhi's revolutionary ideas on education so as to take up the challenges of micro-planning at grass root levels for the transformation of rural areas. For the implementation of the policy directive on rural universities/institutes the Programme of Action envisages the establishment of Central Council of Rural Institutes for the formulation and implementation of a well-coordinated programme of development of rural institutes.

Action has been initiated for the formulation of a detailed scheme for the development of rural institutes

and the establishment of the proposed Central Council of Rural Institutes for the implementation of the programme.

New Education Policy

1784. SHRI TALARI MANOHAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the progress made in respect of implementation of New Education Policy; and

(b) whether all the schemes enumerated in the New Education Policy are being implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) and (b) While a start was made during the year 1986-87 with some of the programmes of the NPE like the National Open University, Navodaya Vidyalayas, finalisation of the National Core Curriculum, Mass Programme of Functional Literacy, Mass Orientation of School Teachers, Establishment of Autonomous Colleges, Consolidation and Quality improvement in Higher Education, removal of obsolescence and modernisation in Technical Education, most of the major initiatives have been launched during the year 1987-88 which include the following:—

(i) 1,12,100 primary schools in 1720 blocks have been covered under the Scheme: Operation Blackboard, exceeding the target fixed for 1987-88.

(ii) State Governments/UTs/Voluntary Agencies have been assisted to set up 1.98 lakh non-formal education centres.

(iii) Preparatory work for setting up projects for education for Women's equality, in 4 districts of UP and 3 each in Karnataka and Gujarat has already started.

(iv) 98 DIETs in 14 States have been established. Approximately 4.42 lakh and 4.55 lakh school teachers have received orientation under the programme of Mass Orientation of School Teachers (MOST) during 1986-87 and 1987-88 respectively.

(v) Three to four vocational courses are being introduced in 700 schools in 16 states with central assistance.

(vi) 209 Navodaya Vidyalayas have been established

(vii) TV sets are being supplied to 10,000 schools and radio-cum-cassette players to 30,000 schools.

(viii) 17 States/UTs have been provided assistance for

(1) Providing Science kits to 18,604 Upper Primary Schools;

(2) Improving the laboratories of 7093 secondary and higher Secondary schools, and

(3) Improving the libraries of 7483 secondary and higher secondary schools.

(ix) The National curriculum framework has been formulated. The model curricula with minimum learing outcomes and common core components for all stages of school education has been published.

(x) The National Literacy Mission approved by Government has been launched as a Mass Campaign on 5th May, 1988. 30 million adults are expected to be made literate by 1990 and another 50 million by 1995.

(xi) IGNOU has started three diploma courses in Management, Creative Writing and Distance Education. A certificate course in Rural Development and a Preparatory Programme for people with no formal qualification to enable them to join the bachelors' degree has also been started. Detailed guidelines for establishment of other Open Universities has also been developed.